

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE  
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 9, 2017**

**\*\*\* Approved \*\*\***

**Members Present:**

Dr. Cris Sullivan, Chair  
Yvonne Brantley  
Hon. Thomas Cameron  
Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines  
Jacqueline Schafer

**Members Absent:**

Jeffrie Cape  
James Fink

**Staff Present:**

Debi Cain, Executive Director  
Julie Giddings  
Carol Hackett Garagiola  
Sarah Heuser  
Gail Krieger  
Mary Lovik  
Tiffany Martinez  
Sandra Pilgrim-Lewis  
Karen Porter  
Michael Bobbitt, Board Secretary

**Guests:**

Rachel Carr - Uniting Three Fires Against Violence  
Melanie Hooker - Domestic Violence Coalition, Inc.  
Mary Pollock - American Association of University Women of Michigan  
Stacy Westra - State Court Administrator's Office

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair C. Sullivan convened the June 9, 2017 Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Michigan Historical Library - Lake Superior room in Lansing, Michigan at 2:10 p.m. Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests.

**BOARD CONSENT**

Review of agenda and approval of May 5, 2017 meeting minutes.

**MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to approve the June 9, 2017 agenda and to approve the May 5, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Y. Brantley.**

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

C. Sullivan said options for 2018 Board meeting dates will be sent to Board members for review. Possible meeting topics were discussed for the upcoming October 29-30, 2017 retreat in Traverse City, Michigan.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GENERAL OVERVIEW OF WORK TO DATE**

D. Cain said there has been discussion about moving Crime Victim Services to the Attorney General's office. She said a proposal will be provided to the Board for review which advocates that Crime Victim Services stay within the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

D. Cain said that researchers from around the country expressed a high regard for C. Sullivan's research at a Federal meeting that she recently attended in Reston, Virginia.

D. Cain and G. Krieger will be working with First Lady Sue Snyder in a workgroup focusing on survivor resource information. The first meeting of the workgroup is scheduled for June 28, 2017.

D. Cain mentioned that Dr. Neil Websdale will be speaking at the Fatality Review & Community Informed Risk Assessment: Implications for the Violence Reduction Network conference scheduled for August 2-3, 2017 in Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Websdale is the Director of the Family Violence Institute at Northern Arizona University and the Director of the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative. Board members are invited to attend at no cost.

## **LEGISLATIVE REVIEW**

M. Lovik presented a draft motion supporting continued location of the Crime Victim Services Commission in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

**MOTION: Moved by L. Hines to support the following draft motion supporting continued location of the Crime Victim Services Commission in MDHHS: Motion seconded by Y. Brantley. Motion carried.**

### **Motion Regarding the Location of the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission**

#### **As Adopted by the MDSVPTB June 9, 2017**

The Michigan Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention & Treatment Board supports keeping the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission within the Michigan Department of Human Services. The Board believes that maintaining this relationship will foster the relationships, collaborations, and connections that the Commission has developed with the MDSVPTB and other MDHHS offices, including community mental health, Medicaid services, and the Children's Services

Agency. These relationships, collaborations and connections allow crime victims' needs to be met in a holistic way. This would not be the case if the Commission were located elsewhere. Crime victims and those who serve them have benefitted from the relationships between the Commission and other MDHHS offices as follows:

- The merger between the former Michigan Departments of Human Services and Community Health has allowed the new Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to co-locate the Crime Victim Services Commission within the same Bureau as staff to the MDSVPTB. This new relationship between the Board and Commission has benefitted Michigan crime victims by promoting unified, streamlined access to services and resources, including counseling, shelter, advocacy, sexual assault medical forensic examinations, child advocacy services, and crime victims' compensation.
- The closer structural relationship between the Commission and the MDSVPTB has benefitted the private, non-profit programs that serve crime victims. Many of these programs receive funding administered by both the Commission and the MDSVPTB, and the closer relationship between these two agencies has provided opportunities to ensure more consistency in program monitoring processes and funding decisions.
- MDHHS is currently in the process of consolidating the areas covered by the Commission and the MDSVPTB in order to increase and promote a more holistic focus on crime victims and their needs. The anticipated consolidation will enhance flexibility of funding and integration of services, reduce fragmentation and funding silos, and eliminate inefficiencies and duplication of efforts within State government.

M. Lovik proposed that the Board amend its general principle on female genital mutilation adopted at the May 5, 2017 Board meeting, to respond to unanticipated legislation that was subsequently introduced.

**MOTION: Moved by to T Cameron to adopt the following amended general principle:  
Motion seconded by L. Hines. Motion carried.**

Female genital mutilation (FGM) has no known health benefits, and causes serious physical and emotional harm to girls and women at all stages of life. This practice also increases women's risk of death or serious physical harm during childbirth, as well as the risk of death of or serious harm to babies born to mothers who have been subjected to this practice. The MDSVPTB believes that FGM is a violation of a woman's basic right to bodily integrity, a right which greatly outweighs any religious or cultural interests that are said to justify it. Accordingly, the Board supports policy measures that aim to end FGM of children and vulnerable adults. These include:

- Criminal penalties **AND/OR CIVIL REMEDIES** for performing, attempting to perform, conspiring to perform, or aiding and abetting the performance of FGM. ~~that are~~ **CRIMINAL**

**PENALTIES SHOULD BE** proportionate with penalties for similar crimes, such as assault with intent to maim, mayhem, and first- or second-degree criminal child abuse.

- Criminal penalties for transporting an individual into Michigan or within Michigan for purposes of undergoing FGM.
- Licensing sanctions for health care professionals who are involved in carrying out FGM.
- Training for health care **AND OTHER RELEVANT** professionals on the harm caused by FGM, and on care for individuals who have been subjected to it.
- Community outreach to provide education on the harm caused by FGM, and on care for individuals who have been subjected to it.
- Requiring health care professionals to report to Children's Protective Services if they treat a minor who has been subjected to FGM.

M. Lovik reported on HB 4677 which would create the Family Advisory Board within the Department of Corrections, and direct it to carry out various duties with a goal of promoting successful family reunification efforts during and after incarceration. The Board decided to take no position at this time and to revisit it at the September 15, 2017 Board meeting.

M. Lovik reported on HB 4691 which would amend the "Child Custody Act of 1970" and rename it the "Michigan Shared Parenting Act." HB 4691 would create a presumption favoring joint legal and physical custody. The Board has issued relevant general principles and taken positions opposing a number of prior bills with provisions similar to those in this legislation.

**MOTION: Moved by L. Hines to send a memorandum to the relevant legislative committee explaining the Board's opposition to HB 4691. Motion seconded by T. Cameron. Motion carried.**

G. Krieger reported on a proposed amendment to MCL 380.1507b regarding the sex education curriculum for Michigan schools.

**MOTION: Moved by T. Cameron to support the proposed amendment to MCL 380.1507b. Motion seconded by L. Hines. Motion carried.**

G. Krieger reported that amendments to MCL 18.355a (governing payment for sexual assault medical forensic examinations) and MCL 400.1535 (governing the Sexual Assault Victims' Medical Forensic Intervention and Treatment Act) have each been reported from the Families, Children, and Seniors Committee in the Michigan House of Representatives. No new developments were reported for legislation to amend MCL 768.27a (governing the admissibility of evidence in criminal trials of prior listed offenses as defined under the Sex Offenders Registration Act).

Board members acknowledged that they had an opportunity to review other bills of interest to the Board's constituency that had been introduced since the Board's May 5, 2017 Board meeting.

**BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

No Board announcements.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

M. Pollock enquired about the Campus Sexual Assault Summit. D. Cain said the Campus Sexual Assault Summit is scheduled for September 25, 2017 at Eastern Michigan University. Guest speakers will include Dr. Rebecca Campbell, Dr. David Lisak and Dr. Keith Edwards.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION: Moved by C. Sullivan to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by T. Cameron. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 4:25 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Bobbitt  
Board Secretary